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The question of Palestine

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 29 May 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires, a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the final communiqué adopted on 26 May 2001 in Doha, Qatar, by the Extraordinary Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference member States on the grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories (see annex).*

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 40 and 41, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Adel Ali **Al-Khal**
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

* Annex is being circulated in the languages of submission only (Arabic, English and French).

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Annex to the letter dated 29 May 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires, a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

EX-ICEM/8-2001/FC/FINAL

FINAL COMMUNIQUE
ADOPTED BY THE
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE OIC FOREIGN MINISTERS ON THE GRAVE SITUATION PREVAILING IN THE PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

DOHA - STATE OF QATAR
3 RABIUL AWWAL 1422 H
(26 MAY 2001)

At the kind invitation of His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar and Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Extraordinary Session of the Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States was held on 3 Rabiul Awwal 1422H (26 May 2001) in Doha, State of Qatar, to consider the grave situation prevailing in Palestine as a consequence of the continuous and spiraling Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people.

The Conference expressed its profound appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani and the Government and people of the sisterly State of Qatar for this generous invitation and for providing the opportunity to conduct a meaningful and deep examination of the serious conditions prevailing in Palestine.

The Conference listened to the important speech kindly delivered by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani and also to the detailed expose of His Excellency President Yasser Arafat. It took note of the report of the Secretary General on the dangerous developments taking place in Palestine.

The Conference elected its Bureau as follows:

-	State of Qatar	Chairman
-	Islamic Republic of Pakistan	Vice-Chairmen
-	Republic of Mali	
-	State of Palestine	
-	Malaysia	Rapporteur

Following the extensive deliberations and discussions that took place between Their Excellencies the Ministers and Heads of Delegations and were inspired by the Declaration of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference on Al-Aqsa Intifada, the Intifada of the Independence of Palestine, the Extraordinary Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States reached the following results:

1- The Conference salutes with great pride the Intifada of the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation, and reaffirms its full political and material support and backing for the Palestinian resistance in the face of the Israeli occupation as well as its support for their blessed Intifada and the legitimate Palestinian right to resist occupation. In this respect, it calls on the Member States for the prompt provision of the necessary material assistance to the Palestinian National Authority and to open the way for raising popular donations to support the resistance of the Palestinian people. The Conference pays its respects in commemoration of the martyrs and their immaculate spirit, expresses its best wishes of quick recovery for the wounded victims, and reaffirms its determination to mobilize all possible resources in the various political, moral, material, economic, human, and information fields for the liberation of the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and to enable the Palestinian people to secure its inalienable national rights, including its right in return to its homes and property and the right to self-determination and the establishment of its independent State on its national territories with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

2- The Conference calls for allocating emergency financial assistance to be extended by the Governments of the Member States to meet the urgent needs arising out of the escalating Israeli aggression and the destruction of the Palestinian infrastructures and productive facilities so as to ensure the continued protection of the land, provide medical and educational services and assist hundred of thousands of unemployed people in a way that supports the blessed Palestinian Intifada and the families of its martyrs as well as the wounded and the detainees, and enable the Palestinians to have the minimum requirements for reconstruction, replanting the territories bull-dozed by the Israeli military machine, and repairing the roads and infrastructures. The Chairmanship of the Conference will, in coordination with the General Secretariat, and with the agreement of the Member States, determine their contributions and remit them directly to the Palestinian Authority or through the Funds for Al-Aqsa and the support of the Intifada at the Islamic Development Bank, taking into consideration the generous contributions already paid by some Member States.

3- The Conference holds Israel fully responsible for its aggression and its oppressive practices that have caused the death of hundreds of martyrs, wounded thousands of Palestinians, destroyed the Palestinian facilities,

infrastructures, and housing and suffocated the Palestinian national economy. This aggression constitutes a flagrant abuse of the rights of the Palestinian people and human being, a gross violation of all the international covenants, conventions, the international law, and the international humanitarian law, especially the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, as well as a disavowal of the resolutions of international legitimacy and signed agreements, which jeopardizes the security and peace of the whole region.

4- The Conference condemns the Israeli occupying forces for shelling the Palestinian cities, villages and camps and its use of F-16 fighters, and U.S. made Apachi helicopter gunships, heavy tanks, missiles from naval ships and the use of depleted uranium bullets and poisonous gases which has caused the death of tens of Palestinians and wounded hundreds of others among the civilian population, destroyed residential areas and civilian and official facilities; and calls on the UN Security Council to promptly intervene in order to put and end to this dangerous and aggressive escalation against the Palestinian people and sanctities in Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif and provide international protection for the Palestinian people.

5- The Conference calls on the United State of America to promptly intervene to stop the Israeli aggression and prevent the Israeli government from continuing to use lethal and internationally banned weapons against civilians which has shaken the very foundations of regional security and stability and put the Middle East region on the brink of a destructive war. It also calls on the UN General Assembly to resume its Tenth use of Extraordinary Session to consider the barbaric Israeli practices and its internationally banned weapons against the Palestinian people.

6- The Conference strongly condemns the gross and wide-scale violations of human rights, which the Israeli occupation authorities persist in committing, and especially the criminal political assassinations and mass reprisals, which constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity, and a flagrant violation of international law and of the right of Palestinian people to life.

7- The Conference holds the Israeli officials responsible in their personal capacity for the consequences of these crimes and requests the United Nations to constitute an International Criminal Tribunal specifically to bring them to trial as war criminals who perpetrated these heinous massacres against the Palestinians and other Arabs. It emphasizes that they should be prosecuted in the same way that similar cases have been.

8- The Conference calls on the United Nations to take binding decisions to force Israel to pay reparations for the moral and material losses it provoked in lives and properties, for the psychological and physical disabilities it caused as a result of its aggression against the Palestinian people, for the blockade and closure imposed on the Palestinian territories and the continuing dismemberment to these territories, for the destruction of Palestinian facilities, infrastructures, and housing, for the damage it inflicted on the agricultural lands and crops, and for uprooting trees, polluting the environment, dispersing the population and for other losses.

9- The Conference condemns the Israeli expansionist policy, the confiscation of Palestinian lands, and all other settlement activities, which is considered a war crime and a flagrant violation of the UN resolutions and international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and its annexes, and of UN resolution NO. 465, which considers settlements illegal facilities that must be dismantled and the building of settlements null and void and without legal effect. It calls for the implementation of UN resolution No. 1322 of 2000 and resolution No. 10/7 adopted by the Tenth Extraordinary Session of the UN General Assembly. It calls on all States of refrain from providing to Israel any assistance to build settlements and also calls for political and economic sanctions to be imposed on Israel to force it to put an end to settlements.

10- The Conference warns of the dangers of the Israeli designs to close down Palestinian institutions in the city of Al-Quds, to desecrate the sanctity of the precincts of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, which constitutes an insult to the holy places and sentiments of the Islamic Ummah, that is bound to set off an unprecedented conflagration in the whole region. In this context, it stresses that every effort should be made to safeguard the identity and Islamic Arab character of Al-Quds and to preserve the Islamic and Christian holy shrines in Palestine.

11- The Conference calls on the UN Security Council to assume its responsibilities, as the international body entrusted with the preservation and maintenance of international peace and security, so as to put an immediate end to the Israeli aggression and secure the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people against the grave violation to which they are being subjected, and in particular, urges the USA, not to obstruct the UN Security Council process to reach such a decision.

12- The Conference commends the firm support and effective solidarity expressed by the countries of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) towards the struggle of the Palestinian people and other Arab and Islamic peoples for recovering their historic inalienable and legitimate rights. It

underscores the efforts exerted by the UN Security Council members from the NAM Group, China, and other friendly States; and urges them to continue these efforts.

13- The Conference emphasizes the need for convening a meeting of the High Signatories of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, in accordance with the statement issued by the meeting of the High Signatories held in Geneva on 15 July 1999, and for Israel's continued gross violations of the Fourth Geneva Convention in the Occupied Palestinian territories particularly Al-Quds Al-Sharif in order to consider these violations and take the necessary measures to implement the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and provide protection for the Palestinian people.

14 - The Conference calls on the co-sponsors of the Peace Process, the USA and the Russian Federation, to assume their responsibilities in ensuring the respect of the principles emanating from the Madrid Conference and aiming at achieving the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict based on the implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy as translated into UN Security Council resolutions No. 242, 338 and 425 and the land-for-peace principle. It also calls on the European Union to assume an effective role in this context.

15 - The Conference reaffirms full Islamic solidarity with Syria and Lebanon facing the continuous Israelis aggressions and threats against them. It calls on all OIC Member States to practically express this solidarity using all means and takes a firm stand by Syria and Lebanon in the face of any Israeli aggression against them.

16 - The Conference also reaffirms Lebanon's legitimate right to defend its territories and liberate the remaining parts under Israeli occupation and support the Lebanese position demanding the maintenance of the number of international forces deployed in Southern Lebanon without reduction or a change in the nature of its action especially in the light of continuous Israeli threats and aggressions and violations of the territories, air space and territorial waters of Lebanon. It charges the Islamic Group at the United Nations in New York to continue its action for mobilizing support to the Lebanese position in this respect and expedite the removal of mines planted by Israel in the Lebanese territories and the release of Lebanese and other Arab detainees.

17 - The conference entrusts the Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference with contacting the leaders of the permanent member States of the UN Security Council to express the position of the Islamic Ummah calling for an immediate halt to the Israeli aggression against the

Palestinian people so as to guarantee and preserve the strategic and economic interest of the Ummah as well as the Security and stability of the Middle East region.

18 - The Conference reaffirms its adherence to the just and comprehensive peace option in the Middle East in such a way as to guarantee the Palestinian and Arab rights, and achieve security and stability in the region on the basis of implementation of the resolutions of international legitimacy, particularly UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and 425, the land-for peace principle, and the return of the Palestinian refugees to their homes and property in accordance with the resolution of the UN General Assembly No. 194. It emphasizes that commitment to the peace process requires Israel to implement the agreements and obligations reached, to build upon the results achieved, and to resume the negotiations on all tracks from where they stopped in accordance with the terms of reference, conditions, and foundations of the peace process.

19 - The Conference calls on the international community and the UN security Council to force Israel to comply with the resolutions of the United Nations, particularly UN Security Council Resolution No. 487 of 1981 by acceding to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, implementing the resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) calling for subjecting all Israeli nuclear facilities to the IAEA Comprehensive Guarantee System, and proclaiming by Israel of its rejection of nuclear armament of nuclear weapons and materials to the UN Security Council and the IAEA as necessary steps to create a zone free of weapons of mass destruction particularly nuclear weapons, in the Middle East region. This is an essential requirement for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

20 - the Conference calls on all international parties concerned with the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region to adopt a definite position towards Israel's repeated rejection of the Arab initiatives and international reports aimed at ending the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people as well as its attempts to renege on its commitment and circumvent the international position calling for a complete end of all settlement activities.

21 - The Conference commissions the Ministerial Committee constituted by the Chairman of the Ninth Islamic Summit Conference to immediately resume its task by calling first for convening of an emergency session of the UN security Council to be devoted to the consideration of the grave situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, providing the necessary international protection for the Palestinian people and implementing the Security Council Resolutions relevant to Palestine and the Arab-Israeli

conflict. The Committee should also urgently visit the capitals of the five permanent Member States of the UN Security Council, the European Union, and the United Nations to consider the initiation of the necessary modes and mechanisms to address the deteriorating situation and that it should consider itself in permanent session to follow-up developments.

22 - The Conference decides to stop all political contacts with the Israeli government as long as the aggression and blockade against the Palestinian people and its National Authority continue, and as long as Israel persists in refusing to implement the relevant UN resolutions and calls on Member States which have established, and which had started to take steps to establish, relations with Israel within the context of the peace process to break these relations, to close down any missions or offices, sever all economic relations, and end all forms of normalization with Israel until it meticulously and sincerely implements the UN resolutions on Palestine, Al-Quds, Al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli Conflict and until the restoration of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

23 - The Conference calls for a commitment to the implementation of the provisions of the Islamic boycott of Israel and for considering the legislation, rules and regulations governing the boycott "The General Principles of the Boycott, the Islamic Law and the by-laws of the Regional Offices and their Regular Meetings" as a part of the national legislations in force. It also calls for the institution of the necessary offices and mechanisms for the implementation of those laws and for coordination between the Islamic Boycott Office and the Arab Boycott Office.

24 - The Conference decides that the Chairmanship, the OIC General Secretariat and the State of Palestine should sponsor the formation of popular Palestinian delegations from among Palestinian youth to visit Islamic States with a view to reaffirming support for the Palestinian Intifada and commitment to the provision of material and moral support to it as well as sensitizing world public opinion as to the need for solidarity with the just Palestinian cause.

25 - The Conference recommends the deployment of continuous efforts with the international mass media to expose the Israeli violations of the Palestinian human rights, awaken the International conscience, mobilized international solidarity and sympathy for the Palestinian people in its legitimate national struggle, and counter the negative effects of the misleading Israeli campaign by organizing a counter-offensive to clarify the situation to world public opinion and decision-makers. It commissions the Secretary General to coordinate this campaign in collaboration with information experts and public relations in the Member States.